

**Amendment to the Abstract:**

The Abstract has been amended. A revised Abstract is attached.

**ABSTRACT**

~~A signal recording apparatus, has~~

~~quantization means of quantizing a signal employing a quantization step;~~

~~quantization information creating means of creating plural pieces of quantization information to specify the quantization step;~~

~~encoding means of generating an encoded signal from the quantized signal;~~

~~and~~

~~recording means of recording a compressed signal having data containing the plural pieces of quantization information and the encoded signal.~~

A signal recording apparatus includes a quantizer for quantizing a signal employing a quantization step. The apparatus further includes a quantization information creator for creating plural pieces of quantization information to specify the quantization step, an encoder for generating an encoded signal from the quantized signal, and a recorder for recording a compressed signal having data containing the plural pieces of quantization information and the encoded signal.

Application No.: 09/811,682  
Amendment Dated: March 14, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of: December 15, 2005

MTS-3237US

ABSTRACT

A signal recording apparatus includes a quantizer for quantizing a signal employing a quantization step. The apparatus further includes a quantization information creator for creating plural pieces of quantization information to specify the quantization step, an encoder for generating an encoded signal from the quantized signal, and a recorder for recording a compressed signal having data containing the plural pieces of quantization information and the encoded signal.